

Arlington Council on Aging
Meeting Minutes, November 16, 2017

Present: Mara Klein Collins, Jim Munsey, Noreen Murphy, Rick Fentin, Ann Fitzgerald, Dick Phelps, Jill Greenlee, and Marge Vanderhill. Associate member, Bob Tosi. Joseph Curro, Selectman representative. Susan Carp, ED.

Absent: Paul Raia

- A. Call to order: The regular meeting of the Council on Aging Board was called to order by Mara Klein Collins at 6:03PM on November 1, 2017, at 27 Maple Street, Arlington, MA.
- B. Citizen's open forum: Diane Connor, MSS board member. Beth Childs, MSW intern.
- C. Minutes of October 19, 2017, approved.
- D. Report of the Chair: no report
- E. Executive Director's Report: Period Covered October-November 2017
 - 1. Race sponsor/donor acknowledgments are complete.
 - 2. 19 new SNAP applications have been submitted.
 - 3. The Formula Budget has been finalized. The amount approved through EOEA is \$9.70. This is \$1800 less than last year. Susan will request social worker hours be increased from 28 to 35 hours, and nursing from 24-28 hours. There is a demonstrated need and will cut down on emergency services.
 - 4. Nurse interviews should be concluded on November 16.
 - 5. Lahey's Farmers market concluded October 31. We extend our appreciation to Lahey for providing 70 Arlington seniors fresh fruits and vegetables for 20 weeks.
 - 6. MMSS issued the COA 77 Farmer's Market coupons, which is 50 more than normal. Other COA's could not use them and Arlington has a demonstrated need. Thanks to Lourie August and Marci Shapiro-Ide for stepping up (last minute) and reaching 50 more seniors.
 - 7. The COA is in the process of securing 75 volunteers to help deliver the Thanksgiving meals to seniors on Thanksgiving morning. If you are around on Thanksgiving morning and would like to deliver a meal to an isolated senior please call our front desk. A better way is needed to contact volunteers. Recently, several large projects have taken a lot of bodies and staff energy.
 - 8. Many thanks to Kathy Roche who for 6 years has coordinated the Arlington High School football team to provide fall yard clean up to 20-22 senior households. The athletic director will be contacted for next year. Susan reported that high school students have also participated in the community service project of a toiletry drive for SNAP recipients.

9. The Age Friendly application has been submitted to AARP. Once approved by end of this year, we will set a date for a kick off. This should be in January 2018.
10. Omissions, if any, will be addressed at the board meeting.

F. Old Business:

1. Minuteman Senior Services: Annual Report 2016-2017 handed out to board members. During Kelly Magee Wright's maternity leave, the assistant director, Leslie May-Chibani, will fill in. The annual online auction will begin on November 27.
2. Friends status: The Town Counsel will continue to work with the Friends' attorney for a mutually agreed upon resolution to all matters. COA board members are expressing concern about the confusion between COA fundraising under the Arlington Health and Human Services Charitable Corporation vs former COA fundraising under the Friends of Arlington COA.
3. Driveway construction: Spring 2018
4. Building renovation: a new RFP will be put out to bid in January 2018. There is \$450,000 in the capital fund towards a resubmission by the architect.
5. Age Friendly Update: see ED report
6. Board action plan for 2018:
 - a. Transportation is still a need. Arlington continues to be the only town in the MSS network where transportation has to be covered by grants. Uber has partnered with the MBTA, and the COA could become a dispatch for services. It was suggested the board petition the Fin Comm to take transportation out of the Enterprise Fund.
 - b. The COA continues to be the fastest growing dept. in town. There is an unmet need for the volume of demand.
 - c. Plan of attack: Susan will meet with Christine B. and the Fin Comm representative will be notified by Jan or Feb 2018.

G. Other business: The next meeting will be December 14, 2017. Jim Munsey will preside.

H. The meeting was adjourned at 7:21pm. Rick moved and Noreen seconded.